



## Identifying vulnerable subpopulations for climate change health effects in the United States

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### Abstract:

Climate change can be expected to have differential effects on different subpopulations. Biological sensitivity, socioeconomic factors, and geography may each contribute to heightened risk for climate-sensitive health outcomes, which include heat stress, air pollution health effects, extreme weather event health effects, water-, food-, and vector-borne illnesses. Particularly vulnerable subpopulations include children, pregnant women, older adults, impoverished populations, people with chronic conditions and mobility and cognitive constraints, outdoor workers, and those in coastal and low-lying riverine zones. For public health planning, it is critical to identify populations that may experience synergistic effects of multiple risk factors for health problems, both related to climate change and to other temporal trends, with specific geographic factors that convey climate-related risks.

**Source:** <http://dx.doi.org/10.1097/JOM.0b013e318193e12e>

### Resource Description

#### Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Air Pollution, Extreme Weather Event, Food/Water Quality, Food/Water Quality, Temperature

**Extreme Weather Event:** Hurricanes/Cyclones

**Food/Water Quality:** Pathogen, Pathogen

**Temperature:** Extreme Heat

#### Geographic Feature:

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Freshwater, Ocean/Coastal

#### Geographic Location:

resource focuses on specific location

United States

# Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

## **Health Impact:**

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Infectious Disease, Injury

**Infectious Disease:** Foodborne/Waterborne Disease

**Foodborne/Waterborne Disease:** General Foodborne/Waterborne Disease

## **Mitigation/Adaptation:**

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

**Population of Concern:** A focus of content

## **Population of Concern:**

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Children, Elderly, Low Socioeconomic Status, Pregnant Women, Workers

**Other Vulnerable Population:** Chronic conditions;Mobility constraints;Cognitive constraints

## **Resource Type:**

format or standard characteristic of resource

Review

## **Timescale:**

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified

## **Vulnerability/Impact Assessment:**

resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

A focus of content